

Message Text

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ACTION EB-03

INFO OCT-01 EUR-10 EA-07 ISO-00 CAB-01 CIAE-00 COME-00

DODE-00 DOTE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 FAA-00 L-02

DRC-01 /036 W

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R 080150Z OCT 74

FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5086

INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMCONSUL HONG KONG

AMEMBASSY SEOUL

UNCLAS TOKYO 13072

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAIR, JA, UK

SUBJECT: CIVAIR: UK - JAPAN AVIATION RELATIONS

1. IN FEBRUARY 1974 THE UK SUSPENDED JAPAN AIRLINES' TRAFFIC RIGHTS AT HONG KONG ON ITS TOKYO-SIDNEY ROUTE. ACTION WAS TAKEN IN RETALIATION FOR FAILURE OF GOJ TO GRANT CATHAY PACIFIC AIRWAYS REQUEST TO OPERATE A PROPOSED SERVICE BETWEEN OSAKA AND SEOUL. UK CLAIMED LATTER RIGHT UNDER 1972 BILATERAL AIR AGREEMENT WITH JAPAN.

2. AVIATION AUTHORITIES HAVE NOT BEEN ABLE TO SETTLE THIS ISSUE IN FORMAL CONSULTATIONS. HOWEVER, FOLLOWING VISIT TO TOKYO LAST WEEK OF G.T. ROGERS, UK UNDERSECRETARY OF TRADE AND INDUSTRY (IN CHARGE OF AVIATION MATTERS), JAPAN CIVIL AVIATION BUREAU (JCAB) ANNOUNCED THAT "INFORMAL" INTERIM UNDERSTANDING HAD BEEN REACHED THAT CATHAY PACIFIC WOULD DROP OSAKA-SEOUL REQUEST AND JAL WOULD NOT SEEK TO RESUME ITS HONG KONG STOP ON TOKYO-SIDNEY ROUTE. IT WAS ALSO AGREED THAT THE TWO AIRLINES WOULD REDUCE THEIR WEEKLY SERVICES BETWEEN HONG KONG AND OSAKA TO 14 FLIGHTS EACH. (THIS REPRESENTS SUBSTANTIAL REDUCTION FOR BOTH CARRIERS. JAL HAD BEEN OPERATING 42 FLIGHT AND CATHAY PACIFIC 39 FLIGHTS ON THIS ROUTE UNDER COMMERCIAL AGREEMENT BETWEEN

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THE AIRLINES. WITH EXPIRATION THIS AGREEMENT ON SEPT 30, SERVICE

MUST BE OPERATED UNDER TERMS OF GOVERNMENTAL AIR AGREEMENT WHICH PERMITS MAXIMUM OF 25 FLIGHTS WEEKLY.)

3. FOREGOING ARRANGEMENTS WILL BE IN EFFECT THROUGH END OF MARCH 1975. GOVERNMENT-TO-GOVERNMENT CONSULTATIONS WILL BE RESUMED IN NOVEMBER WITH VIEW TO REACHING FORMAL AGREEMENT ON SERVICES AFTER APRIL 1, 1975. MEANWHILE JAL AND CATHAY WILL SEEK TO RENEGOTIATE THEIR COMMERCIAL AGREEMENT.
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